GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4183
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Objections to UGC Regulations
Udhayakumar Shri M.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note that teachers in Universities have protested against some of the latest University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations recently;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether many universities have also come out against the notification on workload issued by the UGC;
(d) if so, the details thereof; and
(e) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)
(a) to (e): The University Grants Commission (UGC) had earlier notified the 2010 Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education. On receipt of request for re-consideration of scoring pattern of API in the 2010 Regulations from various quarters, MHRD had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. Arun Nigavekar on 24th July, 2015 to examine issues related to attracting and retaining talented and quality manpower in the teaching profession. The committee submitted its report on 4th April, 2016. On the basis of Prof. Arun Nigavekar committee recommendations, the UGC notified the 3rd Amendment to the Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education Regulations, 2016. The 3rd Amendment regulations prescribed that teachers could be required to allocate additional six hours per week, beyond the prescribed hours of direct teaching, on tutorials, remedial classes, seminars, administrative responsibilities, innovation and updating of course contents. However, due to several representations on the 3rd Amendment, a further review of APIs by the Central Government was done which led to the notification of the 4th Amendment to the UGC Regulations, 2016 on 11th July, 2016. As per the 4th Amendment Regulations, 2016, direct teaching hours per week for Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor are now 16, 14, 14 hours, respectively, which include lectures, tutorials, practical works, project supervision, field work etc.
The 4th Amendment has not prescribed any quantum of hours to be measured either in weeks or months for the teachers to work with students beyond the structure of class room teaching. However, teachers are encouraged to mentor, guide and counsel the students beyond the direct teaching hours with a view to reinforce a student-centric and caring approach in higher education. The hours spent on such purposes are not included in the calculation of API scores though these activities, nevertheless, are important and significant which could be carried out by teachers.
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